URBAN DISTRICT OF ILFRACOMBE.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1971

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

and the

Report of the Public Health Inspector

Tele No: Ilfracombe 3677 (STD code: 027 16)

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
ILFRACOMBE.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Ilfracombe Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Avant and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Urban District.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

E. WILLIAMS,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Staff

Part Time Officer
Medical Officer of Health
E. Williams M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Whole Time Officers
Public Health Inspector, Cleansing Superintendent, Housing Officer, Petroleum Inspector.
D. G. Andrews, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk: R. Prideaux.

STATISTICS

General Statistics

Area (Land and Inland Water)	5,627 acres
Population	9,846
Rateable Value	£404,093
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£3,732
Bright Sunshine during 1971	1,565.7 hrs
Rainfall during 1971	41.95 ins.

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Births: Area Comparability Factor	1.28
Deaths: " " "	0.63

Vital Statistics

Live Births -	
Number	113
Rate per 1000 population	12.6
Rate per 1000 population, adjusted by Comp. Factor	16.1
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births	5%
Stillbirths -	
Number	NIL
Rate per 1000 Total Live and Stillbirths	12
Total Live and Still births	113
Infant Deaths, (deaths under 1 year)	NIL
Infant Mortality Rates -	
Total Infant Deaths per 1000 Total Live Births	NIL
Legit " " " " " " "	NIL
Illegit " " " " " " "	NIL
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	NIL
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths, and deaths under week combined, per 1000 Total Live and Stillbirths)	NIL

Maternal Mortality (including Abortion)	
Number of Deaths	NIL
Rate per 1000 Total live and stillbirths	NIL
Deaths	158
Death Rate per 1000 population	17.6
" " " " " adjusted by Comp. Factor	11.1

Population, Births and Deaths for the Urban District since 1931

Year	Population	Live Births	Deaths
1931	9,175 Census		
1951	9,228 Census		
1959	8,650	113	130
1960	8,620	105	139
1961	8,701 Census	117	155
1962	8,510	102	145
1963	8,420	120	157
1964	8,200	129	143
1965	8,280	136	152
1966	8,230	140	143
1967	8,240	113	157
1968	8,210	115	154
1969	8,230	110	164
1970	8,170	127	164
1971	9,846 Census	113	158

Live Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	55	52	107
Illegitimate	4	2	6
	59	54	113

Deaths	Males	Females	Total
	76	82	158

BIRTH RATE (adjusted) AND DEATH RATE

1960	13.9	11.6
1961	15.3	12.8
1962	13.6	12.4
1963	18.1	12.6
1964	20.1	11.6
1965	19.5	11.5
1966	21.7	11.54
1967	17.4	12.8
1968	17.9	12.6
1969	17.2	12.9
1970	19.8	12.7
1971	16.1	11.1
	England & Wales 16.0	England & Wales 11.6

Table showing the certified Causes of Death in the District during 1971

Registrar General's Figures

	Male	Female
Malignant Neoplasm - Oesophagus	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	5	2
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	3	6
Diabetes Mellitus	-	1
Multiple Sclerosis	1	-
Hypertensive Disease	-	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	30	29
Other Forms of Heart Disease	2	3
Cerebrovascular Disease	11	12
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	3	2
Pneumonia	4	3
Bronchitis and Emphysema	2	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-
Peptic Ulcer	1	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	4
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	-
Other Diseases - Genito-Urinary System	1	-
Diseases of Skin - Subcutaneous Tissue	1	-
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	-	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
All other Accidents	1	1
Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries	2	1
All other external causes	1	-
Total all causes	76	82

Cancer Deaths

Oesophagus	-	1
Stomach	-	2
Intestine	3	3
Lung and Bronchus	5	2
Breast	-	3
Uterus	-	2
Others	3	6
Leukaemia	-	1

Total number of Cancer deaths and percentage of Cancer deaths to total deaths

Year	Total Deaths	Cancer deaths	% of Cancer deaths to total dea
1962	145	33	22.0
1963	157	27	17.0
1964	143	33	23.0
1965	152	25	16.0
1966	143	28	19.0

1967	157	25	15.9
1968	154	34	22.0
1969	164	30	18.0
1970	164	23	14.0
1971	158	31	19.0

Infant Mortality Rate

There were no infant deaths during the year
There were no deaths due to childbirth during the year.

Cancer of Lungs and Bronchus

Year	Male	Fenale	Total
1962	4	1	5
1963	3	1	4
1964	10	1	11
1965	7	2	9
1966	10	-	10
1967	11	-	11
1968	4	3	7
1969	4	-	4
1970	1	2	3
1971	5	2	7

Infectious Diseases

Nine infectious disease cases were notified during the year

Measles	1
Infective Hepatitis	8
Pul. Tuberculosis	NIL
Non Pul Tuberculosis	NIL

There were no instances of food poisoning reported.

Incidence of Lung Tuberculosis

Year	Notification	Death
1962	3	-
1963	4	1
1964	1	1
1965	-	-
1966	5	-
1967	-	1
1968	2	-
1969	1	-
1970	-	-
1971	-	-

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

No elderly persons were removed cumpulsorily from their homes to County Welfare Centres during the year.

Meals on Wheels

This service, run by the W.R.V.S., commenced in 1963 by serving 15 meals to persons in need of the service twice weekly, during 1970 this was increased to 50 meals per session.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals

The hospital services for Ilfracombe and the surrounding areas are administered by the South West Regional Hospital Board through the North Devon Hospital Management Committee.

The hospital situated in the town is the Ilfracombe and District Tyrrell Hospital which has 32 beds.

With the opening of the new maternity unit at Barnstaple, all maternity cases needing hospital delivery are now admitted to Barnstaple.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases

The Kingsley Hospital at Bideford is available for infectious diseases other than small pox.

Small Pox

Any cases of small pox will be sent to Liskeard Small Pox Hospital. Special ambulance transport can be obtained through Plymouth Ambulance Service. Tel No: Plymouth 64101.

Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Exeter.

Ambulance Services

Two ambulances, under the control of the County Health Authority are stationed at Ilfracombe and operated by the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Orthopaedic Clinic

Held at Boutport Street, Barnstaple, the first Friday in each month at 11.00 a.m. by appointment.

Chest Clinic

At the North Devon Infirmary Annexe, Barnstaple. Sessions are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. for Clinic and X-Ray examinations, and on Fridays from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

Venereal Disease Clinic

This is held at the North Devon Infirmary Annexe.
Females: Mondays 4.00 p.m. Thursdays 4.30 p.m.

Males: Mondays 5.15 p.m. Thursdays 5.15 p.m.

G.P. Clinic

Devon County Council Health Centre which was opened during 1967.
The following sessions are held at the G.P. Clinic :-

Child Welfare Clinic	Thursdays 2.00 to 4.30 p.m.
Ante Natal Clinic	2nd & 4th. Mondays 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.
School Clinic	Daily 9.00 to 9.15 a.m. during term.
Consultation School Clinic	1st & 3rd. Thursdays 9.30 to 12 noon.
Dental Clinic	Fridays 9.30 to 11.30 a.m.

By Appointment Only

Opthalmic Clinic	3rd. Wednesdays 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon, odd months, January etc,
Speech Therapy	2nd & 4th Tuesdays p.m.
Chiropody Clinic	1st, 2nd & 5th Wednesdays a.m.
Hearing Assessment Clinic	2nd Tuesdays 10.oo a.m. - 12 noon
Cytology Clinic	1st Wednesday each month, a.m.
Family Planning	1st & 2nd Wednesdays, a.m.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1971

To the Chairman and Members of the Ilfracombe Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Avant and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Sixth Annual Report relating to the work of my Department for the year ending 31st. December 1971.

By the end of the year the Warden's House at the new Oak Tree Gardens Estate was occupied, 10 bungalows and 6 ground floor and 6 first floor flats for elderly persons were ready for occupation and will be let in January 1972.

The remaining 12 ground floor flats for elderly persons and 12 first floor flats for general need housing should be available in May or June 1972 to complete the Estate.

These new one bedrooned units, with their 'Electricaire' central heating systems and up -to-date lay-outs and facilities have proved most satisfactory to their tenant many of whom, were previously living under most unsatisfactory circumstances.

Sub-standard premises, vacated when the bungalows and flats became available, wil be closed.

Refuse collection at the new Estate will be made easier by the provision of polythene sacks and sack holders to each unit, the sacks being distributed weekly by the new Warden.

The housing list continous to grow and there is still a great need for one - bedrooned units for elderly persons and for two - bedrooned units.

By the end of 1971 there were :-
132 applicants for one-bedrooned units for elderly persons.
31 applicants for one-bedrooned units for general need
85 applicants for two-bedrooned accommodation
23 applicants for three bedrooned accommodation
1 applicant for four bedrooned accommodation

It is the Council's policy, where vacancies in Council-owned houses occur, to give first priority to applicants requiring transfers ie by offering a three - bedrooned house to a family already in two-bedrooned Council accommodation, and whose family is such that a third bedroom is needed.

In this way, it is generally possible to satisfactorily house two families, when one house becomes vacant, which helps reduce the housing list.

The only new public conveniences constructed during the year were in the West side of the new Pavilion Wings, built during the year. These will be used in connec with functions held in the new building. The town is adequately served by fourteen sets of male/female conveniences, all but two having wash-hand-basins, which are supplied with paper towels and soap dispensers.

The removal of all coin-operated locks from the town's toilets did not result in an increase in vandalism, which had been anticipated might occur.

No labour problems were experienced during the year on the refuse collection service.

Some 30,000 polythene refuse sacks were sold during the year, 17,000 more than in 1970. This method of storing refuse - especially at large hotels is much more hygienic and collection is much easier. Many private householders are now taking advantage of the scheme, which is encouraging.

More time than in 1970 was spent during the year on carrying out Inspections of premises where means of escape from fire were unsatisfactory, upon receipt of reports from the Fire Authority.

When the new Fire Precautions Act, to be administered by the Fire Authority, comes into force in 1972, when premises will have to be Certified in this respect, many hoteliers and owners of guest-houses will be faced with spending considerable sums of money to comply with the new Codes of Practice.

The impact will be felt quickly I feel, as the Fire Authority will be employing many Fire Prevention Officers, to carry out inspections, on a much larger scale than has been possible hitherto.

There is no doubt, however, that adequate fire precautions are of utmost importance and I have felt for a considerable time, that administration should be in the hands of Specialist Officers.

During the year 42 premises were inspected under the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act. Where appropriate, inspections under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations are made at the same time. There is insufficient time however, I find, as I have previously remarked, to carry out anywhere near sufficient inspections in these fields.

11 hotel and guest house kitchens were inspected during the year and the Medical Officer of Health continued to make such inspections as he was able to do, to assist.

A considerable amount of time was spent during 1971 in carrying out joint inspections with the Council's Deputy Surveyor under the Improvement Grants Scheme. The number of applications increased during the year, which was influenced by the 75% Grant now available in this area. Numbers of applications however, relate to premises, where the amount of repair work necessary is very considerable, and this not being 'Grant-earning', results in applications not being pursued.

During the year 2268 visits and 502 interviews granted in relation to the work of the Department.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council, the Council's Officers and my Clerk, Mr. Prideaux for their support and assistance during the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Avant and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. G. ANDREWS, Cert. S.I.B.,
A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE, 1971

Public Health	Visits	Re-visits
General	149	53
Rooms disinfected	2	-
Refuse (including bins)	262	45
Refuse Trade	7	-
Litter	2	-
Accumulation	12	-
Camping and Caravans	14	-
Drains	46	40
Drains tested	5	5
Sewers and Sewage disposal	2	2
Insect Pests	7	3
Refuse Tip	331	-
Rodent Control	3	3
Public Conveniences	40	4
Pet Shops	4	4
Depot	125	-
Means of escape (Section 60)	35	26
Animal Boarding Establishments	1	1
Civic Amenities Act	18	10
Housing		
General	308	149
Grants	30	12
Applications	201	29

Petroleum Act	Visits	Re-visits
Inspections	10	8
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	12	6
Factories (with power)	4	4
(without power)	1	1
(sites etc.,)	-	-
Food & Drugs Regulations	39	25
Ice Cream	4	4
Milk & Dairies	2	2
Meat & Foods	6	-
Interviews etc.,	407	

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no houses registered in the district

SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

Refuse	252
Drains, sewers and closets	15
Food & Drugs	6
Housing matters	10
Holiday accommodation	4
Streams	2
Rats & Mice	88
Animals, birds and Insects	7
Smell	2
Fouling of footpaths by dogs	4
Miscellaneous	6
Mud on Highway	2
	398

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS RECORDED

Work done during 1971 as a result of action taken:-

	Informal Notice	Statutory Notice
Drains cleared	18	-
Drains repaired	5	-
Rain water pipe repaired	3	-
Roofs repaired	6	-
Dustbins provided	3	-
Gutters repaired	3	-
Accumulations removed	8	-

During the year 236 informal notices and 1 statutory notice were served.

	Informal Notice	Statutory Notice
Public Health	167	-
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	20	-
Food and Drugs	15	-
Civic Amenities Act	7	-
Factories Act	1	-
Housing Acts	21	1
Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act	3	-
Petroleum Acts	2	-
	236	1

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	13	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	43	14	4	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers premises)	4	-	-	-
Total	60	14	4	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	Number defects which P ecution institu
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to homework)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	3	-	-	-

OUTWORK

Nature of work	Number of outworkers in August	Number of cases of default in sending lists	Number of prosecutions for failure to send lists	Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel	1	-	-	-	-	-
Making etc., Plastics	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shoe repairs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	-	-	-	-	-

Clean Air Act

No complaints of smoke nuisance were received during the year.

HOUSING

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

(a)	By the Local Authority	1
(b)	By private enterprise	76

Housing Statistics

1.	Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year	
	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	86
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	216
	(c) Number of notices served to remedy defects	13
2.	Houses Demolished	-
3.	Unfit Houses closed as a result of Action under the Housing Acts	4
4.	Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied	
	After informal action	10
	After formal action under	
	(a) Public Health Acts (1) by Owners	1
	(2) by L.A. in default	-
	(b) Housing Acts	1

Housing

Mrs. D. Braund, the Warden of the Wilder Park elderly persons flats at Horne Road, terminated her appointment in July after 5½ years satisfactory service.

Mrs. W. E. Smith was appointed Warden in August. She has proved a most successful replacement and is well liked by the elderly persons she looks after. Her nursing experience has proved most useful.

Mrs. H. Hollings took up her appointment as Warden with her husband at the new Oak Tree Gardens Estate, Highfield Road in December - the first 22 units of the Estate - 10 bungalows and 12 flats being let in January 1972.

Mrs. Hollings coped well with the teething troubles inevitable with a new Estate of this nature and has proved most efficient and helpful to the residents.

Re-housing

During the year 26 Council Houses were let as a result of tenancy changes, and 11 tenants exchanged occupation of Council owned properties.

Overcrowding and Certificates of Disrepair.

No case of overcrowding was reported during the year. No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

There are 3 sites licenced under the provisions of the above Act, and one site is operated by the Caravan Club.

Tenting

Four sites are used for tenting (including one under the control of the Camping Club of Great Britain and Northern Ireland). Sanitary accommodation and water supply is available.

35 visits were paid to sites during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is controlled by the North Devon Water Board. 124 bacteriological samples were taken during the year, 4 of which were not entirely satisfactory. Repeat samples were taken from the same location and the results of the second sampling were satisfactory.

The sources from which the water is available are :

(a) Intakes on tributaries of the River Bray and a small impounding reservoir at Challacombe.

(b) Two small impounding reservoirs at Slade.

The reliable yields of both sources is 0.35 M.G.D. and 0.25 M.G.D. respectively.

The treatment works are situated at Hore Down near Mullacott Cross and at Slade with a filtration designed rate of 288,000 GPD and 228,000 GPD respectively.

The area served from the Hore Down Works and Slade Works, in addition to the Ilfracombe Urban District includes parts of the Barnstaple Rural District. The daily demand for water in this area due to the influx of holiday visitors is subject to very large fluctuations, and the peak daily demand is gradually increasing annually and having regard to the sources reliable yield and the filtration capacity of the works, the Board considered that it was their duty to draw the attention of the local Planning Authority to the position and to seek their co-operation in restricting, for the time being, development in the area supplied from the Hore Down works, so that the limited supplies to its existing consumers should not be placed in jeopardy.

Development including several residential estates for which planning approval had already been obtained is not effected by these restrictions and building is still in progress. Plans are well advanced with the negotiations for the construction of a One million gallon Service Reservoir to improve the distribution in the higher parts of Ilfracombe. The Board have also approved a substantial trunk mainlaying programme for the augmentation of supplies to this area from the recently constructed Meldon Dam and the Prewley Treatment Works, which are now under construction and due for completion in July 1973.

No restrictions have been requested in that part of the area supplied from the Slade Works.

No action has been necessary with regard to contamination. The number of dwelling houses supplied from public water mains is 3598.

Natural Fluoride content of water .02 part per million.

Swimming Baths

The Council operate large covered sea water swimming baths, and there are also fo private swimming baths attached to Hotels and Chalet Sites. The water is filtered a chlorinated.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

No premises are used as slaughterhouses in the district.

The number of food and other shops in this area are:-

Cafes	58
Canteens	9
Bakehouses	5
Grocers and Dairies	40
Greengrocers	11
Butchers	11
Fishmongers	2
Fish & Chip Shops	3
Confectioners,Tobacconists & Newsagents	25
Public Houses and Licenced Premises	24
Ladies and Gents Outfitters	24
Boot and Shoe Shops	4
Multiple Stores	4
Jewellers and Opticians	5
Chemist and Toilet	5
Fancy Goods, Toys and Photography	29
Hairdressers	9
Furniture Shops	1
Ironmongers, Decorators and Cycles	11
Electrical Goods	4
Pet Shops and Seed Merchants	3
Garage and Petroleum	16
Betting Shops	4
Florist	2

Unsound food surrendered as unfit for human consumption:-
21 cwts 41 lbs

Unsound food is disposed of by burying at the Council's Refuse Tip.

In most cases the food condemned originated from deep freeze cabinets which had broken down.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Table A. Registration and General Inspections.

Class of Premises	Number of prems. regd during year	Total number of regd. premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	1	39	10
Retail Shops	1	93	16
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	2	-
Catering Establishments	-	-	-
Canteens open to the public	-	37	12
Fuel Storage Depots	-	1	-
Total	2	172	38

Table B. Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises 81

Table C. Persons employed in registered premises by workplace

Class of workplace	Number of persons employed M	F	Total
Offices	93	80	173
Retail Shops	138	249	387
Wholesale Depts, Wharehouses	5	2	7
Catering establishments open to the public	111	202	13
Canteens	-	-	-
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
	347	533	880

Table D. Exemptions. NIL

Table E. Exemptions. NIL

Table F. Inspectors

Number of Inspectors appointed under Section 52(1) or (5) of the Act 1

Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act None

MILK SUPPLY

The County Council's Licence permits pasteurising at the Local Dairies under the Food and Drugs Act.

Ice Cream No samples were taken during 1971.
There is 1 premises registered for the manufacture, 60 premises licenced for the sale and 1 for the storage of ice cream.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960

114 visits were made in connection with the regulations.

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

Devon County Council is the Food & Drugs Authority for this area. All complaints relating to unsound food are passed to the County Council for any action that Authority consider necessary.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

Rodent Control

This service is carried out on a part-time basis by one of the Council's employees. Warfarin poison is used in all cases. During the year no major infestations of rats or mice were reported.

165 first inspections were made during the year and 522 re-visits.

Pest Control

Advice is given on the best method to exterminate wasps, the Rodent Operator dealing with nests on pleasure grounds and rights of way. Advice is also given on the elimination of cockroaches from hotel kitchens, many of which are under Contract with Pest Control Firms.

REFUSE

Vehicles. Three are in use, one being laid up during the winter-time. The vehciles are :-

(1) Shelvoke & Drewry T.N. Type continous loader (April 1966)
(2) Dennis Paxit 2A compression vehicle (May 1968)
(3) Ford Transit chassis with purpose made body purchased July 1969

A fourth vehicle, an old Shelvoke & Drewry fore & aft tipper is kept in reserve, and should be available for use until the end of March 1973. After this time, as far as is known at present, it will not be able to be used as it will not satisfy the requirements of the Plating and Testing Regulations.

Both large vehicles are now used during the winter- time and the small vehicle brought into use in the summer-time. Increased labour costs now involves the expenditure of considerable sums on repairs and maintenance of vehicles, especially on the vehicle which has been in use since 1966.

Collection. Household refuse is collected weekly, Hotels & Boarding Houses receiving two collections in summer-time. Trade refuse is collected weekly charges varying - the minimum charge being £1.65 per annum. Additional collections are available in summer-time on payment of 50 pence per bin.

During the year, the number of polythene sacks sold reached the figure of approximately 30,000, compared with 13,000 in 1970. These have proved of great value to the public, particularly so to hoteliers. Most large hotels use these instead of dustbins, with the result that collection areas are tidier and more hygienic, whilst collection is a simple and speedy operation.

Refuse Disposal. During the year Killacleave tip continued to be the only source of disposal available. A Meeting was held at the Civic Centre, Barnstaple in September convened by the County Council, to meet representatives of North Devon Local Authorities to discuss the possibilities of the provision of a joint incineration plant.

Instructions were subsequently given by the County Council to Consulting Engineers to prepare a feasability study into refuse disposal for the North Devon area. Each Local Authority involved completed questionaires on their own collection and disposal arrangements and were visited by representatives of the Consulting Engineers. Recommendations are now awaited.

Arrangements were made during the year, after consultation with the Barnstaple Rural District Council, the Berrynarbor Parish Council and the owners, for this Authority to use the Rural District's tip at Berry Down during the winter period, when there is less refuse to collect in the Urban District.

The use of this alternative tip - 5 miles further from Ilfracombe than the existing one - will lengthen the life of Killacleave tip which will only be used in future during the summer periods.

This will provide 'breathing-space' until the findings of the feasability study are known and it's recommendations put into effect.

It is anticipated that tipping at Berry Down will commence in early February 1972, when the necessary site works have been completed.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1961

Two shops were licenced under the above act.

List of Public Conveniences in the Urban District :-

Situation	Accommodation	
	Females	Males
Hele	2 W.C's	2 W.C's 3 Stalls
Brimlands	2 W.C's	2 W.C's 3 Stalls
Shearclose	3 W,C's	3 W.C's 4 Stalls
St. James Park	1 W.C.	1 W.C. 2 Stalls
Pier	7 W.C's	2 W.C's 3 Stalls
Cheyne	2 W.C's	2 W.C's 3 Stalls
Pavilion	14 W.C's	6 W.C's 8 Stalls
Market Square	8 W.C's	3 W.C's 9 Stalls
Northfield Road	3 W.C's	3 W.C's 5 Stalls
Church Street	4 W.C's	3 W.C's 6 Stalls
Bicclesconbe Park	2 W.C's	2 W.C's 3 Stalls
The Cove	3 W.C's	2 W.C's 3 Stalls
Lee	4 W.C's	2 W.C's 3 Stalls
Oxford Park	3 W.C's	2 W.C's 3 Stalls

Conveniences at the Pier continued to be cleaned by the Harbour staff and Bicclesconbe Park toilets by the Parks Department Staff.

All other toilets are cleaned frequently every day during the summer - time but it was decided to dispense with Sunday cleaning of toilets in the winter of 1970/71. No adverse reports have been received as a result of this action.

The new Pavilion Wings were under construction during the winter of 1970/71. New small ladies and gents toilets will be provided in the west wing.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS, 1928 AND 1936

During the year 17 renewal licences permitting the storage of petroleum spirit and mixtures were issued.

The quantity of petroleum spirit involved was 65,205 gallons.

Licence fees received by the Local Authority amounted to £79.00

18 Inspections were carried out during the year, and 13 tanks were the subject of satisfactory 'ullage tests' during the year.